

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 22, 2006. Claims 11-34 are presented for examination, of which Claims 11, 20-23, 27 and 28 are in independent form. Claims 11, 20-23, 27 and 28 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Claims 30-34 have been added to provide Applicant with a more complete scope of protection. The specification has been amended to conform the Summary section to the present independent claims. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 11-13 and 16-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,907,319 (Hashimoto). In addition, Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unapentable over *Hashimoto* in view of U.S. Patent 6,532,077 (Arakawa).

Independent Claim 11 is directed to an image processing apparatus including: (1) an input unit, adapted to input image data; (2) a processor, adapted to perform a job based on the image data input by the input unit; (3) an operation unit, adapted to display an operation screen for the job to be performed by the processor and accept a user operation based on the operation screen; (4) an entering unit, adapted to enter a user ID and a machine group ID; and (5) a controller, adapted to change parameters to be displayed on the operation screen of the operation unit based on the user ID entered by the entering unit, the parameters being for processing the image data inputted by the input unit and being selectable by a user corresponding to the user ID entered by the entering unit.

Hashimoto relates to an image forming apparatus including (1) a display means H for displaying various kinds of information representative of functions relating to a copying

operation; (2) a touch position detecting means I for detecting when an operator touches a part of the detecting means; (3) a function setting means J for setting a function corresponding to the position detected by the detecting means I; (4) a picture display control means K for causing the display means H to selectively display a simple picture or a standard picture; and (5) a picture switching means L for selecting either the simple picture or the standard picture. The simple picture allows the operator to select a limited number of basic functions, while the standard picture allows the operator to select all the available functions.

Even if *Hashimoto* is deemed to discuss a control section for setting an input user code, however, nothing has been found in *Hashimoto* that would teach or suggest “an entering unit, adapted to enter a user ID and a machine group ID [emphasis added]” as recited in Claim 11. For at least that reason, Claim 11 is believed to be allowable over *Hashimoto*.

Independent Claims 20 and 21 are method and computer program product claims, respectively, corresponding to apparatus Claim 11, and are believed to be patentable over *Hashimoto* for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 11.

Independent Claim 23 is directed to an image processing apparatus that comprises an input unit, a processor to perform a job based on the input image data, an operation unit, to display an operation screen for the job to be performed and to accept a user operation based on the operation screen, and an entering unit, adapted to enter a user ID and machine group ID using a card. Also provided is a controller, adapted to control the operation screen of the operation unit based on the user ID entered by the entering unit using the card.

Claim 23 is believed to be allowable over *Hashimoto* for substantially the reasons advanced with regard to Claim 11.

Independent Claim 22 is directed to an image processing apparatus that comprises

an input unit, a processor to perform a job based on input image data input, and an operation unit, to display an operation screen for the job to be performed by the processor and to accept a user operation based on the operation screen. The apparatus also is provided with an entering unit, to enter identification information corresponding to a user, and a controller, that selects, from among a plurality of languages, a language used for a term to be displayed in the operation screen of said operation unit based on the identification information entered by the entering unit.

Among other notable features of an apparatus according to claim 22, is that the image processing apparatus selects the language to be used for displaying terms on the operation screen based on inputted identification information. For example, as shown on Figs. 17 and 18 of the present application, English or Japanese can be selected as the language in which terms are displayed on the operation screen.^{1/}

Hashimoto fails to teach or suggest the above feature. In the *Hashimoto* system, a simple picture and a standard picture are switched based on inputted user code. The simple picture and the standard picture may have different terms to display. For example, “ENLARGE” and “REDUCE” are displayed for the simple picture, while “SHEET-PRIORITY MAG. CHANGE” is displayed for the standard picture. As far as anything in *Hashimoto* indicates, however, the language used to display these terms is English only. Nothing has been found in *Hashimoto* to suggest a feature of changing languages, for example, from Japanese to English, to display on a screen based on inputted user code, as in an apparatus structured according to Claim 22. For at least that reason, Claim 22 also is deemed to be allowable over *Hashimoto*.

Independent Claims 27 and 28 are method and computer program product claims,

^{1/} It is of course to be understood that the claim scope is not limited by the details of this or any other particular embodiment that may be referred to.

respectively, corresponding to apparatus Claim 22, and are believed to be patentable over Hashimoto for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 22.

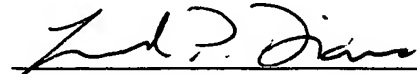
A review of the other art of record, including *Arakawa*, has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Leonard P. Diana", written over a horizontal line.

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